

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-04 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /031 W
----- 057258

O P 081400Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5383

INFO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAREUR PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

ZEN AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI PRIORITY 2162

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 6864

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, GR

SUBJECT: REPORT OF TANK MOVEMENTS

REF: STATE 168199 (DTG 072216Z JUL 76 (NOTAL)

1. CONGEN THESSALONIKI REPORTS THAT TANKS WERE SAID TO BE HEARD MOVING THROUGH CITY EARLY MORNING JULY 7 AND AGAIN EARLY MORNING JULY 8. HOWEVER, ON JULY 8, A VISUAL CHECK OF 20TH ARMORED DIVISION HEADQUARTERS BY U.S. MILITARY OBSERVER SHOWS NORMAL NUMBER OF TANKS AND APC'S IN PARKING AREAS VISIBLE FROM ROAD. CONGEN SUGGESTS THAT MOVEMENTS MAY BE CONNECTED WITH THE JULY 7 VISIT OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE GERMAN ARMY HILDEBRAND, WHO VIEWED MILITARY EXERCISE INCLUDING TANKS AT TRAINING AREA SOUTHWEST OF THESSALONIKI. TANKS FROM THESSALONIKI BASES PARTICIPATING IN EXERCISE NORMALLY WOULD PASS THROUGH CITY IN THEIR TRAVEL TO AND FROM TRAINING AREA AT TIMES MOVEMENTS WERE HEARD.

2. COMMENT: EMBASSY DAO SOURCES CONFIRM THAT NO UNUSUAL TANK ACTIVITY HAS TAKEN PLACE, AND THAT EXERCISES WERE HELD FOR GERMAN COMMANDING GENERAL WERE SIZABLE

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CISES HELD FOR GERMAN COMMANDING GENERAL WERE SIZABLE

FIELD MANEUVERS INCLUDING PARATROOPS, AND ONES WHICH
CHARACTERISTICALLY WOULD INVOLVE ARMORED VEHICLES.
KUBISCH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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